Land at St. John's Primary School, Hoveton, Norfolk



Archaeological Evaluation Report



August 2016

Client: Lanpro Services on behalf of FW Properties

OA East Report No: 1967 OASIS No: oxfordar3-259687 NGR: TG 30877 18212



Land at St. John's Primary School, Hoveton, Norfolk

Archaeological Evaluation

By Ashley Pooley

Editor: Stephen Morgan MA MSc ACIfA

Illustrator: Charlotte Walton BA MPhil MCIfA

Report Date: August 2016



Report Number: 1967

Site Name: Land at St. John's Primary School, Hoveton, Norfolk

HER Event No: ENF141137

Date of Works: August 2016

Client Name: Lanpro Services on behalf of FW Properties

Client Ref: FWP002/0630/01

Grid Ref: TG 30877 18212

Site Code: **ENFHOV16**

Finance Code: XNFHOV16

Receiving Body: Norfolk Museums

Accession No:

Prepared by: Ashley Pooley Position: Supervisor Date: August 2016

Checked by: Aileen Connor Project Manager Position: Date: August 2016

Signed:

Disclaimer

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

Oxford Archaeology East,

15 Trafalgar Way, Bar Hill, Cambridge, **CB23 8SQ**

t: 01223 850500 f: 01223 850599

e: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net

w: http://thehumanjourney.net/oaeast

© Oxford Archaeology East 2016 Oxford Archaeology Limited is a Registered Charity No: 285627



Table of Contents

| S | ummary | | 5 |
|---|-----------|--|----|
| 1 | Introduc | tion | 6 |
| | 1.1 | Location and scope of work | 6 |
| | 1.2 | Geology and topography | 6 |
| | 1.3 | Archaeological and historical background | 6 |
| | 1.4 | Acknowledgements | 7 |
| 2 | Aims an | d Methodology | 7 |
| | 2.1 | Aims | 7 |
| | 2.2 | Methodology | 7 |
| 3 | Results. | | 8 |
| | 3.1 | Introduction | 8 |
| | 3.2 | Evaluation trench | 8 |
| | 3.3 | Finds Summary | 8 |
| | 3.4 | Environmental Summary | 8 |
| 4 | Discussi | ion and Conclusions | 8 |
| | 4.1 | Discussion | 8 |
| | 4.2 | Significance | 8 |
| Α | ppendix A | A. Trench Descriptions and Context Inventory | 9 |
| | | 3. Summary List of HER Results | |
| Α | ppendix (| C. Bibliography | 14 |
| Α | ppendix I | D. OASIS Report Form | 15 |



List of Figures

Fig. 1 Site location map

Fig. 2 Trench plan

List of Plates

| Plate 1 | Excavated trench looking north |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| Plate 2 | East-facing section of trench |
| Plate 3 | East-facing section of test pit 2 |
| Plate 3 | East-facing section of test pit 3 |



Summary

A single 30m long evaluation trench was excavated on the north-eastern boundary of St. John's Primary School, Hoveton, adjacent to the western boundary of St John's Church. No archaeological features or artefacts were found, with only modern topsoil and natural deposits being encountered.



1 Introduction

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted on 15th August 2016 at St. John's Primary School, Hoveton, Norfolk. The area evaluated is the subject of a planning application in preparation for the construction of a new car park serving the Primary School and the adjacent church of St. John's.
- 1.1.2 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Lanpro (Gajos 2016).
- 1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). The results will enable decisions to be made by Norfolk County Council, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.
- 1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site is located on land at the eastern edge of the village of Hoveton, Norfolk. The specific area evaluated was situated on the north-eastern edge of St. John's Primary School's property adjacent, to the western boundary of St. John's churchyard to the east and Horning Road to the north. School playing fields extend to the south of the proposed development, whilst the western side is occupied by the access road for the school and the caretaker's house.
- 1.2.2 The British Geological Survey 1:50,000 sheet records the underlying geology as belonging to sands and gravels of the Crag Group Formation. The site lies approximately 550m to north of the River Bure, on a north-west facing slope, and at approximately 12m AOD its south-eastern part and 8m AOD in its north-western part.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 No previous archaeological investigations have occurred on or in close proximity to the site. However, pre-application advice issued by James Albone of Norfolk County Council highlighted the potential for Anglo-Saxon and early medieval archaeological remains being present. The present church building, now somewhat isolated from the modern settlement of Hoveton, is known to have 11th or 12th century origins and might be the sole surviving relic of an earlier settlement (Gajos 2016, p. 2). The presence of the church so close to the proposed development further suggests that burials associated with the churchyard might be present.
- 1.3.2 A search of the Historic Environment Record was commissioned for an area within 1km of the site (12th August 2016, Appendix B). This showed a number of stray finds of uncertain provenance and those found by metal-detecting or field-walking. Most relevant to the immediate area of the site, Iron Age and medieval pottery was found in the churchyard in 1996-97, whilst a watching brief (also in the churchyard) carried out in 2002 encountered graves and a substantial assemblage of medieval pottery.



1.4 Acknowledgements

1.4.1 This fieldwork was commissioned by Paul Gajos of Lanpro Services Ltd on behalf of FW Properties. Aileen Connor of Oxford Archaeology managed the project, whilst the fieldwork was carried out by the author. Survey was undertaken by Pat Moan (Oxford Archaeology), and the illustrations produced by Charlotte Walton. The excavator was supplied by Bryn Williams, and operated by Karl Webber.

2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The aims of the project were specified in the WSI (Gajos 2016) as follows:
- 2.1.2 The overall aim of the programme of archaeological works will be to obtain sufficient information as to the archaeological significance and potential of the site to allow reasoned and informed recommendations to be made on the application for development of the site. This will be achieved through the following objectives:
- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the development site
- 2.1.4 To assess vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains
- To assess the impact of previous land use on the site, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits
- 2.1.6 To assess the potential for survival of environmental evidence
- To inform a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains
- To produce a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the Norfolk HER.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The methodology conformed with that set out in the WSI (Gajos 2016) such that a single evaluation trench measuring 30m in length was excavated on a north to south alignment adjacent and parallel to the western boundary of St. John's churchyard.
- 2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a 360° tracked excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.
- 2.2.3 The site survey was carried out by Pat Moan using a Lecia GS08 GPS with Smartnet.
- 2.2.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metaldetected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.
- 2.2.5 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.2.6 The fieldwork was conducted in dry weather conditions with clear visibility.



3 Results

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 A single trench measuring 30m long and 1.8m wide was excavated on the eastern edge of the proposed development area. This was situated approximately parallel, and as close as to it as practicable, to the boundary shared with St. John's churchyard, given the presence of tree cover.

3.2 Evaluation trench

- 3.2.1 Machine-excavation proceeded beyond the modern topsoil (which was a uniform 0.40m thick) to the top of the underlying natural sands and gravels. The total depth of the trench was 0.5m. No archaeological features were encountered
- 3.2.2 Given the concern that burials or other significant archaeological features might be present and concealed by apparently natural deposits it was decided to further evaluate by machine excavating three deeper test pits (0.30m to 0.35m depth) into the base of the trench. These were designated Test Pits 1 to 3 and were situated respectively at the southern end, mid-point and northern end of the trench. Only further natural deposits were encountered at these locations.

3.3 Finds Summary

3.3.1 No artefacts were recovered from the evaluation.

3.4 Environmental Summary

3.4.1 No suitable deposits for environmental sampling were found during this evaluation.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Discussion

- 4.1.1 Neither archaeological features nor artefacts were encountered within the evaluation trench. As a result of close inspection, it was noted that the topsoil was very fine and well sorted with relatively few flint pebbles or cobbles being present. Charcoal and coal were entirely absent and only a small undiagnostic fragment of brick was present.
- 4.1.2 Very occasional plough scars were visible during machining and the underlying natural deposits were investigated to assess their character. This strongly suggests that no archaeological features were present and that the topsoil derives from the establishment of the playing fields rather than being from a reworked relict graveyard deposit.

4.2 Significance

4.2.1 Overall, the evaluation provided evidence that no archaeological remains were present.



APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

| Trench 2 | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|
| General description | Orientation | N-S | | | | | |
| firm natural sand. The natural sand was tested in three places to | Avg. depth (m) | 0.5 | | | | | |
| | Width (m) | 1.8 | | | | | |
| | Length (m) | 30 | | | | | |



APPENDIX B. SUMMARY LIST OF HER RESULTS

| Monument UID | Monument Record Type | Period | GridRef | Description | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|---|----------------|---|--|
| MNF11795 | Find Spot | Neolithic | TG 2997 1767 | Neolithic polished flint axehead | |
| MNF13517 | Monument | Medieval to Post Medieval | TG 333 167 | Medieval and later peat cuttings along the River Bure | |
| MNF13518 | Monument | Medieval | TG 300 182 | Bridge Broad, medieval peat cuttings | |
| MNF13586 | Monument | Post Medieval to Modern | Not displayed | East Norfolk Railway (later Great Eastern), Cromer line | |
| MNF13587 | Monument | Post Medieval to Modern | TG 14271 22756 | Route of East Norfolk Railway Aylsham Branch, including Bure Valley Railway | |
| MNF14927 | Monument | Post Medieval | TG 3035 1816 | Part of post medieval watermill, Hoveton St John, north of bridge | |
| MNF15423 | Monument | Post Medieval | TG 299 188 | Site of post-medieval windmill at Mill Farm | |
| MNF15938 | Monument | Post Medieval | TG 3029 1780 | Site of post medieval brick kiln | |
| MNF17353 | Find Spot | Medieval | TG 3039 1746 | Site of medieval stone vess fragments | |
| MNF20493 | Building | Medieval to Post Medieval | TG 3098 1785 | Church Farm, Horning Road | |
| MNF23035 | Building | Post Medieval | TG 3173 1761 | Home Farm House | |
| MNF23451 | Monument | Modern | TG 3163 1742 | Site of a cricket pitch | |
| MNF23991 | Find Spot | Medieval | TG 3183 1724 | Medieval pottery scatter | |
| MNF25901 | Find Spot | Late Saxon to Post Medieval | TG 31 17 | Multi-period finds | |
| MNF28925 | Find Spot | Roman | TG 31 17 | Roman metal finds | |
| MNF29148 | Find Spot | Lower Palaeolithic to Post Medieval | TG 3057 1843 | Multi- period finds | |
| MNF30513 | Monument | Post Medieval | TG 318 175 | Hoveton House Park | |
| MNF32579 | Monument | World War Two | TG 302 180 | Site of World War Two pillbox | |
| MNF32921 | Find Spot | Beaker | TG 3042 1844 | Bronze Age flint find | |
| MNF39402 | Find Spot | Lower | TG 31 17 | Multi-period finds | |



| Monument UID | Monument Record Type | Period | GridRef | Description |
|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|---|
| | | Palaeolithic to Post Medieval | | |
| MNF40943 | Monument | Unknown | TG 2995 1881 | Site of undated enclosure |
| MNF42497 | Find Spot | Medieval to Post Medieval | TG 30 18 | Medieval and post medieval finds |
| MNF42499 | Find Spot | Neolithic | TG 3187 1915 | Neolithic flint find |
| MNF43318 | Find Spot | Post Medieval | TG 30591 19005 | Post medieval pottery and glass finds |
| MNF43344 | Find Spot | Prehistoric | TG 31 18 | Prehistoric flint find |
| MNF43346 | Find Spot | Medieval to Post Medieval | TG 31 18 | Medieval and post medieval finds |
| MNF46746 | Monument | Unknown | TG 30300 18112 | 'Bog bodies' at Wroxham Bridge footbridge |
| MNF48710 | Building | Post Medieval to Modern | TG 31485 17874 | Drive Cottages |
| MNF48712 | Building | Post Medieval to Modern | TG 3031 1864 | Wroxham signal box |
| MNF48897 | Monument | Medieval | TG 31194 16816 | Wroxham Broad, medieval peat cutting |
| MNF48900 | Monument | Medieval | TG 31213 17557 | Snape's Water |
| MNF50726 | Building | Post Medieval to Modern | TG 3061 1747 | Rivercroft Cottage, Beech Road |
| MNF50734 | Building | Post Medieval to Modern | TG 3009 1793 | The Grange, Norwich Road |
| MNF54471 | Monument | Neolithic | TG 3164 1832 | Cropmarks of a possible mortuary enclosure |
| MNF54472 | Monument | Bronze Age | TG 3174 1839 | Cropmark of an incomplete curvilinear enclosure or ring ditch |
| MNF54473 | Monument | Unknown | TG 3155 1864 | Enclosure and linear ditch cropmarks |
| MNF54474 | Monument | Post Medieval | TG 3149 1837 | Cropmarks of a road of probable post medieval date |
| MNF54475 | Monument | Medieval | TG 3111 1823 | Cropmarks of undated and possibly medieval field boundaries and ditches |



| Monument UID | Monument Record Type | Period | GridRef | Description |
|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|---|
| MNF54479 | Monument | Unknown | TG 3156 1761 | Undated linear ditch cropmark |
| MNF54480 | Monument | Unknown | TG 3166 1727 | Undated linear ditch cropmark |
| MNF54481 | Monument | Medieval to Post Medieval | TG 3184 1742 | Cropmarks of possible medieval to post medieval enclosures and ditches |
| MNF54482 | Monument | Medieval to Post Medieval | TG 3189 1717 | Cropmarks of enclosures and linear ditches |
| MNF54505 | Monument | World War Two | TG 3031 1802 | Site of a World War Two pillbox |
| MNF54524 | Monument | Roman to Medieval | TG 3012 1919 | Cropmarks of a rectilinear field system of possible Roman date |
| MNF54526 | Monument | Roman | TG 3038 1917 | Cropmarks of a trapezoidal enclosure of possible Roman date |
| MNF54577 | Monument | Bronze Age | TG 3122 1787 | Possible ring ditch cropmark |
| MNF54862 | Monument | Medieval to Post Medieval | TG 3011 1983 | Cropmarks of a medieval to post medieval field system |
| MNF57062 | Monument | Roman to Post Medieval | TG 29981 18715 | Cropmarks of field boundaries of possible Roman and post medieval date |
| MNF57329 | Building | Post Medieval to Modern | TG 30570 18299 | 11 Stalham Road, former St. Gregory's Hospital |
| MNF62321 | Monument | Post Medieval to Cold War | TG 3035 1732 | Site of Wroxham House Park |
| MNF62393 | Monument | Post Medieval to Cold War | TG 3037 1726 | Site of Wroxham House, now occupied by 76 and 78 Charles Close |
| MNF62394 | Monument | Post Medieval to Modern | TG 3044 1742 | Late 18th century hexagonal walled garden enclosure, formerly associated with Wroxham House |
| MNF62468 | Monument | Post Medieval to Unknown | TG 3088 1749 | Site of 19th-century hollow post drainage mill |
| MNF62475 | Monument | Post Medieval to Unknown | TG 3001 1815 | Site of 19th-century hollow post drainage windmill |
| MNF63063 | Monument | Post Medieval to Modern | TG 3132 1888 | A defaced milestone, originally marking Norwich 8 miles |
| MNF63501 | Monument | Post Medieval | TG 3004 1793 | A milestone possibly marking 7 miles |



| Monument UID | Monument Record Type | Period | GridRef | Description |
|-----------------|-------------------------|---|--------------|---|
| | | to Modern | | to Norwich |
| MNF63798 | Monument | Lower Palaeolithic to Post Medieval | TG 3116 1894 | Post medieval field boundaries and prehistoric activity |
| MNF65462 | Find Spot | Post Medieval | TG 30 18 | Post-medieval tokens |
| MNF7344 | Monument | Post Medieval | TG 302 185 | Site of post medieval brickworks and post medieval object scatter |
| MNF8424 | Find Spot | Medieval to Post Medieval | TG 3028 1816 | Human remains |
| MNF8425 | Monument | Post Medieval | TG 3031 1812 | Wroxham Bridge |
| MNF8429 | Place | Modern | TG 3073 1764 | Skeleton Reach |
| MNF8433 | Building | Medieval to Modern | TG 3093 1817 | St John's Church, Hoveton |



APPENDIX C. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Gajos, P., 2016, Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation. Land at St. John's Primary School, Hoveton, Norfolk, Unpublished Lanpro Services Ltd report. July 2016.



APPENDIX D. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

| Project D | etails | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| OASIS Number oxfo | | oxfordar3-259687 | ordar3-259687 | | | | | |
| Project Nan | ne | Evaluation at land | on St. John's | Primary School, | Hoveton, Nort | folk | | |
| Project Dates (fieldwork) Start | | | 15-08-2016 | | Finish | 15-08-20 | 016 | |
| Previous Work (by OA East) | | | No | | Future | Future Work No | | |
| Project Reference Codes | | | | | | | | |
| Site Code | ENF141 | 137 | | Planning Ap | p. No. | | | |
| HER No. | ENF141 | 137 | | Related HE | R/OASIS N | lo. | | |
| Type of Pro | ject/Tec | hniques Use | d | | | | | |
| Prompt | | Environmenta | ıl Assessment r | regulations Sche | dule 1 project | s (Obligato | ory) | |
| Developmen | nt Type | Car Park (flat |) | | | | | |
| Please sel | ect all | techniques | used: | | | | | |
| Aerial Phot | ography - | interpretation | Grab-Sa | mpling | | Ren | note Operated Vehicle Survey | |
| ☐ Aerial Phot | ography - | new | Gravity-0 | | Sample Trenches | | | |
| Annotated | Sketch | | ☐ Laser Scanning | | | ☐ Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure | | |
| ☐ Augering | | | ☐ Measured Survey | | | ▼ Targeted Trenches | | |
| Dendrochro | onological | Survey | ☐ Metal Detectors | | | ▼ Test Pits | | |
| ☐ Documenta | ry Search | ı | ☐ Phosphate Survey | | | ☐ Topographic Survey | | |
| Environme | ntal Samp | ling | ☐ Photogrammetric Survey | | | ☐ Vibro-core | | |
| Fieldwalkin | g | | ☐ Photographic Survey | | | ☐ Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit) | | |
| Geophysica | al Survey | | Rectified Photography | | | | | |
| | | Significant Fi | | | and significat | nt finds us | ing the MDA Object type | |
| Thesaurus | together | with their respecti | ve periods. If n | o features/finds | were found, pl | ease state | e "none". | |
| Monument | | Period | | Obje | ct | | Period | |
| | | Select p | eriod | | | | Select period | |
| Select p | | period | | | | Select period | | |
| Select | | Select p | eriod | | | | Select period | |



Project Location

| - | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--|
| County | Norfolk | | | Site A | ddress (inc | luding po | ostcode if possible) | |
| District | North Norfolk | St John's Primary School | | | | | | |
| Parish | Hoveton | | Horning Road Hoveton NR12 8NX | | | | | |
| HER | Norfolk Historic | Environme | ent Record | | • | | | |
| Study Area | 0.25ha | | | Natio | nal Grid Ref | erence TG 30877 18212 | | |
| Project Or | iginators | | | | | | l | |
| Organisation | | OA EAS | T | | | | | |
| Project Brief | Originator | | | | | | | |
| Project Desig | • | Paul Gaj | os | | | | | |
| Project Mana | ger | Aileen C | onnor | | | | | |
| Supervisor | | Ashley P | ooley | | | | | |
| Project Ard | chives | | | | | | | |
| Physical Arch | nive | | Digital A | Archive | | | Paper A | rchive |
| Location | | | Location | | | | Location | |
| Accession ID | | | Accession ID | | | | Accession ID | |
| Archive Con | | | 7.00000. | | | | 7.00000.0 | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, |
| | | Disital | Danas |] | | D: 14 1 1 1 1 | | - H II |
| | Physical Contents | Digital Contents | Paper Contents | | | Digital Me | dia | Paper Media |
| Animal Bones | | | | | | Database | | Aerial Photos |
| Ceramics | | | | | | GIS | | ☐ Context Sheet |
| Environmental | | | | | | Geophysic | cs | Correspondence |
| Glass | | | | | | ☐ Images | | Diary |
| Human Bones | | | | | | | ıs | Drawing |
| Industrial | | | | | | ☐ Moving In | nage | Manuscript |
| Leather | | | | | | Spreadsh | | Мар |
| Metal | | | | | | ■ Survey | | ☐ Matrices |
| Stratigraphic | | | | | ✓ Text | | ☐ Microfilm | |
| Survey | | | | | Virtual Re | alitv | × Misc. | |
| Textiles | | | | | | | , | ➤ Research/Notes |
| Wood | | | | | | | | Photos |
| Worked Bone | $\overline{\sqcap}$ | $\overline{\Box}$ | | | | | | Plans |
| Worked Stone/L | ithic \square | | | | | | | ➤ Report |
| | | × | | | | | Sections | |
| Other | | | | | | | | Survey |
| | | | | The second secon | | | | |



| Notes: | |
|--------|--|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

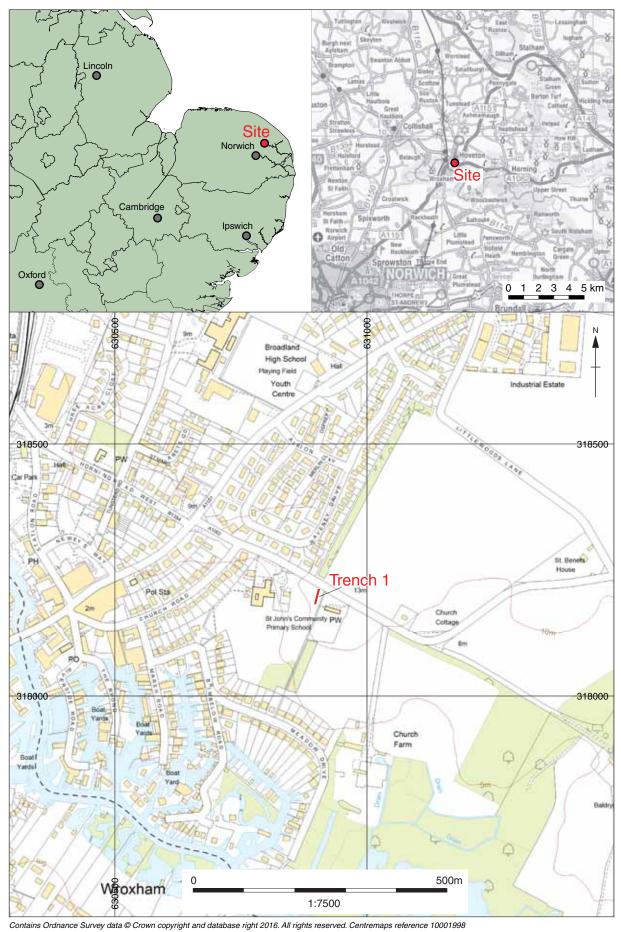


Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological trench (red)



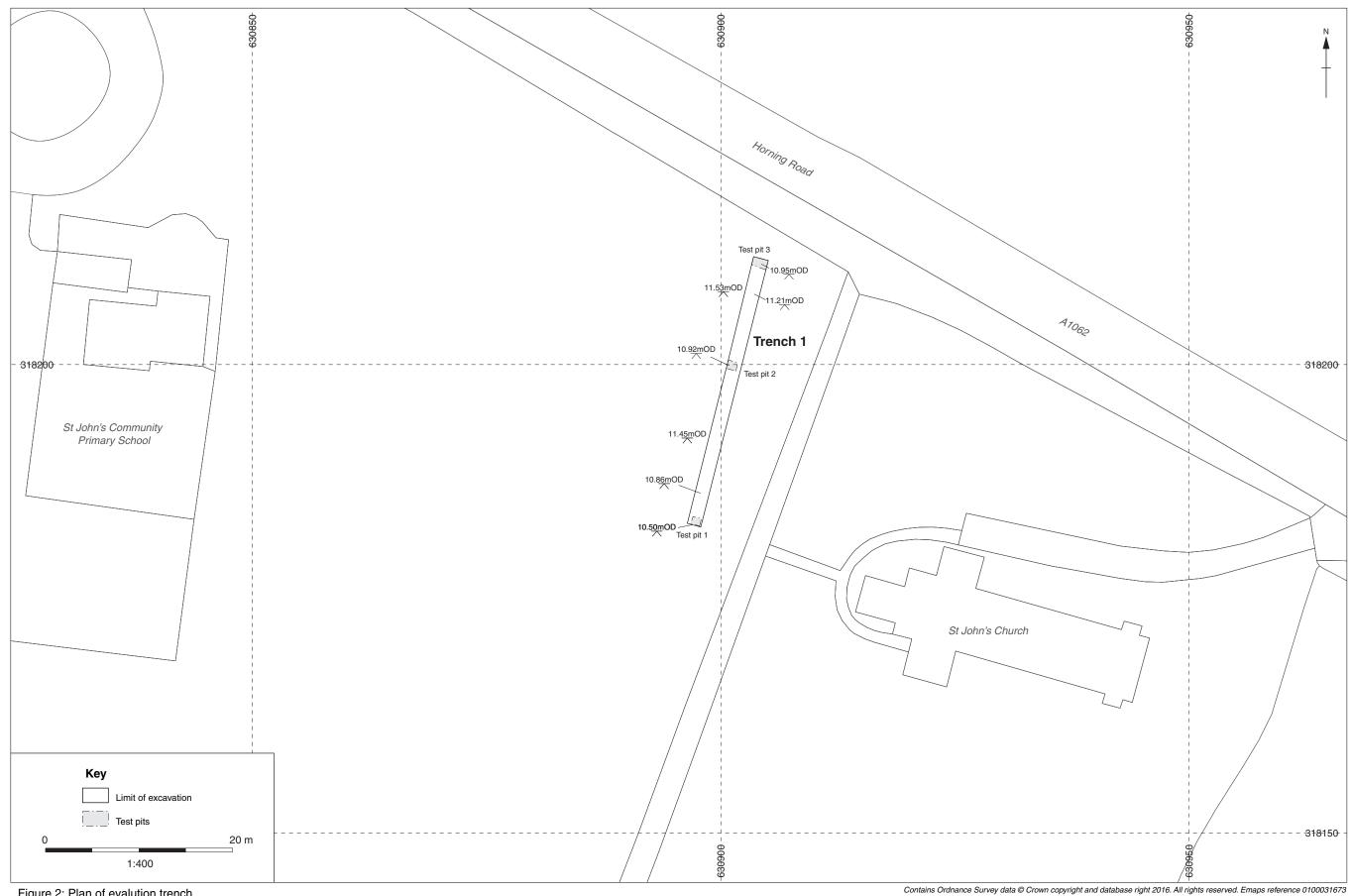


Figure 2: Plan of evalution trench

Report Number 1967 © Oxford Archaeology East





Plate 1: Excavated trench, looking north



Plate 2: East-facing section of trench





Plate 3: East-facing section of test pit 2



Plate 4: East-facing section of test pit 3

© Oxford Archaeology East Report Number 1967



Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House Osney Mead Oxford OX20ES

t: +44(0)1865 263800 f: +44(0)1865 793496

e:info@oxfordarchaeology.com w:http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OA North

Mill3 MoorLane LancasterLA11QD

t:+44(0)1524 541000 f:+44(0)1524 848606 e:oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com w:http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way Bar Hill Cambridgeshire CB23 8SQ

t:+44(0)1223 850500 e:oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com w:http://oxfordarchaeology.com